

integrate the restaurant. This may seem like a small victory in light of later accomplishments in the civil rights movement, but victories like this one laid the foundation for many of the rights people of color enjoy today.

The surviving members of the group, Joseph McNeil, Franklin McCain, and Jibreel Khazan, have settled into their own private lives; but their impact on race relations in the United States was profound. It is only fitting that we honor them today in this manner.

Mr. Speaker, I reiterate my strong support for this legislation, remember my own days as a student at that time, not in North Carolina but in the State of Arkansas where conditions were very similar, and all of us were touched, moved, inspired, motivated, and activated by the Greensboro Four. I thank the gentleman for introducing this legislation.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud cosponsor of H. Con. Res. 25 which recognizes the contributions of Jibreel Khazan (Ezell Blair, Jr.), David Richmond, Joseph McNeil, and Franklin McCain, known as the "Greensboro Four" for their historic contribution to the civil rights movement. I want to thank my colleague Representative MILLER of North Carolina for properly recognizing these four gentlemen in this body. Without their contribution to the civil rights movement it may have taken many more years to break the barrier of segregation that use to be so common place in our Nation.

On Feb. 1, 1960 four black freshmen at North Carolina A&T State University, Franklin McCain, Joseph McNeil, Jibreel Khazan (Ezell Blair, Jr.), and David Richmond, took seats at the segregated lunch counter of F. W. Woolworth's in Greensboro, N.C. They were refused service and sat peacefully until the store closed. They returned the next day, along with about 25 other students, and their requests were again denied. The Greensboro Four inspired similar sit-ins across the state and by the end of February; such protests were taking place across the South. Finally, in July, Woolworth's integrated all of its stores.

This single act forever changed the way black Americans were able to live in society. Much like Rosa Parks who refused to give up her seat simply because of her race and inspired the movement to integrate the bus system; and much like Jackie Robinson who refused to observe the color barrier in our nation's pastime of baseball and blazed the path for all future black athletes; the Greensboro Four similarly broke down one of the key barriers that kept black Americans from receiving equal treatment under the law. This small act of peaceful defiance inspired others to act in protest and became a tidal wave for change. The fact is that in any movement against injustice, the great majority of the population will feel oppressed and disenfranchised, but few will be ready to act, out of fear due to the threat of violence from their oppressors. However, there will be those brave few who will stare down this threat and act to undo the injustice they face. The Greensboro Four represent those brave few who dared to act in the

face of oppression, they refused to be ruled by fear and they helped bring out others who could now see their way past their fears and into their hope for a better future.

The act of being able to eat in a dining establishment of our choice is one we take for granted in today's America. It seems like such a simple issue, yet it was the simplest matters that were at the crux of the oppression faced by black Americans. Whether it was basic housing, transportation or security issues, black Americans were kept from realizing equal rights and equal protection. The Greensboro Four refused to accept this situation as a fact of life. They were surely angry at their plight, but they did not choose a path of violence, no instead they chose a path of civil disobedience, in which their cry for justice grew louder and louder with each protest until it became too much for their oppressors to bear. The Greensboro Four stood up for millions of Americans with the simple act of sitting down at a lunch counter. Often it is not the amount of action taken that is important, but the meaning behind the act. I stand with my colleagues in this body today to recognize the Greensboro Four for their act of brave civil disobedience and the proud legacy that it has left.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on May 17, 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court declared two things: (1) segregated schools are illegal; and (2) the legal principle of "separate but equal" was dead.

Philosophically the Court was saying if our public institutions are equal, why separate them? And, practically and historically, if they are separate we know they will be unequal.

Thus, the Brown decision laid the legal foundation for attacking all segregated institutions in America.

There had been sit-ins in the 1940s and '50s—in Chicago, St. Louis, Baltimore and elsewhere—but without the legal foundation of Brown.

During this period of increasing civil rights activity, CORE, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, and SCLC clergy trained young people in nonviolent direct action. Rev. James Lawson and others did such training in Nashville at Tennessee State, the American Baptist Theological Seminary and at Fisk University.

The students at North Carolina A & T State University, my alma mater, didn't know about the activity in Nashville. But freedom was increasingly in the air.

So, on February 1, 1960, four young African American men—Franklin McCain, Joseph McNeil, Ezell Blair Jr. and David Richmond—all freshmen on academic scholarships at North Carolina A & T, sat down at a "whites only" Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro. They wanted to be served, but were refused and physically abused. They responded to violence with nonviolence.

The media focused on what was happening in Greensboro, and African American college students across the South were inspired to begin a lunch counter sit-in movement. They filled jails, got out, sat-in again, and went back to jail. They marched, picketed and refused to stop until the "Cotton Curtain" fell.

Ten years after Brown, their dream was achieved when Congress passed the 1964 Civil Rights Act outlawing segregation in public

institutions. But it all began with four students at North Carolina A & T. The nation owes them a great debt of gratitude.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support and agree to House Concurrent Resolution 25.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TERRY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 25.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ARTHUR STACEY MASTRAPA POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 324) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 321 Montgomery Road in Altamonte Springs, Florida, as the "Arthur Stacey Mastrapa Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 324

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ARTHUR STACEY MASTRAPA POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 321 Montgomery Road in Altamonte Springs, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Arthur Stacey Mastrapa Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Arthur Stacey Mastrapa Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 324.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 324, a bill to designate the U.S. postal facility at 321 Montgomery Road in Altamonte Springs, Florida, as the Arthur Stacey Mastrapa Post Office Building. I thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FEENEY) for sponsoring this legislation to honor Sergeant Mastrapa, a courageous American hero whom our Nation lost in the war on terror.

Sergeant Arthur Mastrapa of Apopka, Florida, an Army Reservist and military police officer, was killed in a rocket attack at a logistics support facility in Balad, Iraq, on June 16, 2004. He was 35 years old. His loss was made more tragic because it came just 2 days before he was due to return home with his comrades in the 351st Military Police Company, based in Ocala, Florida. He is survived by his loving wife, Jennifer, and his two loving children, Marisa and Reese.

Nothing could be more appropriate or fitting than to name this post office after Sergeant Mastrapa. Mastrapa was a Reservist and a postal letter carrier who worked full time at this post office on Montgomery Road in Altamonte Springs. I hope and pray that the dedication of this facility in Altamonte Springs will be a meaningful reminder of Arthur's life and service to his family, friends, colleagues, and neighbors. The Mastrapa family needs to know that the heartfelt thoughts and prayers of all the Members of the House of Representatives are with them. We join them in mourning their loss.

The United States of America owes its security and freedom to people like Arthur Mastrapa. Sergeant Mastrapa and our Armed Forces have helped to prevent another attack against America since September 11, 2001, by taking the war on terror straight to where our enemies live and plot. Certainly, the wonderful democratic election in Iraq on January 30 was in no small part possible to Sergeant Mastrapa's heroism.

I know the Iraqi people, like all Americans, would thank Arthur if they could.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the House leadership for selecting this bill for floor consideration, and I greatly thank my distinguished colleague from Florida for working on H.R. 324. I urge all Members to support this honor for Sergeant Arthur Mastrapa.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of H.R. 324, legislation naming the postal facility in Altamonte Springs, Florida, after Ar-

thur Stacey Mastrapa. This measure, which was introduced by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FEENEY) on January 25, 2005, and unanimously reported by our committee on February 9, 2005, enjoys the support and co-sponsorship of the entire Florida delegation.

Mr. Mastrapa was a city letter carrier at the Arthur Springs Post Office who served in the United States Army Military Police in Iraq when he was killed in action on June 16, 2004. He was 35 years old and due to return home the week that he was killed.

Arthur Stacey Mastrapa joined the U.S. Army in 1992 and served at the Redstone Arsenal in Alabama and later in Germany. He left active duty in 1998 and joined the U.S. Army Reserve. He became a letter carrier casual in Altamonte Springs and soon earned a career appointment.

Sergeant Mastrapa was called back to active duty in 2003 to serve in Operation Enduring Freedom. During his military service, he earned medals for good conduct and service in the national defense. He received two Army Achievement medals and ribbons for service in military law enforcement.

Sergeant Mastrapa was a loving family man. He left behind a wife and two children and many, many relatives in the central Florida area, Cuba, Michigan, and Australia. He was also loved and respected by his co-workers at the post office.

Designating the post office in Altamonte Springs, Florida, is an excellent way to honor the memory of Arthur Stacey Mastrapa.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague for sponsoring this measure. I urge swift passage of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers at this time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FEENEY), my distinguished colleague, the sponsor of H.R. 324.

Mr. FEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friends from Pennsylvania and Illinois who did a great job describing the sacrifice that Mr. Mastrapa gave to his country on behalf of the citizens of Iraq and, actually, freedom throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, today we honor a man who honored us and dedicated his life to serving others. I thought I would take a few minutes to share some of the hometown effects of the loss of Sergeant Mastrapa.

Arthur Stacey Mastrapa put country and others above self. He possessed a unique calling for both service and optimism that left a mark on the lives of all he met.

His sister-in-law, Tracy Mastrapa, described this calling: "He dedicated his life to public service, first in active duty as a military police officer, then

as a postal worker, and finally as a Reserve MP. He was called to serve his country, which he did proudly with the utmost integrity."

His calling led him to join the Army in 1992 and then as he left the Army, to reenlist in the Army Reserves after his active duty years ended.

His career outside the Reserve was also in service of his fellow citizens, this time in central Florida. As a postal worker in Altamonte Springs, Florida, he earned the respect of those around him. One of his colleagues said of his work, "I respected him for his positive outlook and his level head. Also, his customers remarked how much they liked him and appreciated his dedication. He was a hard worker and good family man."

Two years ago, Sergeant Mastrapa answered the call to serve for what turned out to be the final time. He and his Reserve unit, the 351st Military Police, were deployed to Iraq. Last June in Iraq, Sergeant Mastrapa made the ultimate sacrifice.

All human beings strive to occupy a valued place. One observer has offered this definition for this desire: "You occupy a valued place if other people would miss you if you were gone."

Mr. Speaker, Arthur Mastrapa occupied a valued place. He left behind a wife, Jennifer, and two children Marisa and Reese. They, along with the rest of his family, miss him terribly.

His co-workers miss him as well. One described Sergeant Mastrapa as a man who "loved his job, loved his family, loved his country."

Another said, "I only knew him a short time but it was long enough to know what a great guy he was. Arthur was a family man. He loved his kids and wanted them with him all of the time."

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So in an attempt to honor a man who occupied a valued place, his coworkers requested that a special place be named for him, the post office in Altamonte Springs, Florida, the very place Sergeant Mastrapa worked prior to leaving for Iraq for what turned out to be his final journey.

Today, we are here to carry out his colleagues' wish so they are reminded of Arthur Mastrapa when they arrive for work each new day, and so his wife, his children, his family and his friends can come to see his name and remember his service, his sacrifice and his decency.

In closing, I would like to borrow from the words of President Harry Truman who said, "We know that helping others is the best way, probably the only way to achieve a better future for ourselves."

Arthur Stacey Mastrapa's desire to help others and serve his country has made the future a better place to live. I urge my colleagues to approve H. Res.

324 and create a lasting memorial to Sergeant Mastrapa's name.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support H. Res. 324, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TERRY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 324.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONGRATULATING THE NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS FOR WINNING SUPER BOWL XXXIX

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 86) congratulating the New England Patriots for winning Super Bowl XXXIX.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 86

Whereas on February 6, 2005, in Jacksonville, Florida, the New England Patriots defeated the Philadelphia Eagles by a score of 24 to 21 in Super Bowl XXXIX to win the National Football League (NFL) Championship;

Whereas the Patriots' victory in Super Bowl XXXIX resulted in their third championship in the last four years, the first being a 20 to 17 victory over the St. Louis Rams in Super Bowl XXXVI and the second being a 32 to 29 victory over the Carolina Panthers in Super Bowl XXXVIII;

Whereas the Patriots' victory over the Eagles clinched back-to-back championships for the first time in franchise history;

Whereas in winning Super Bowl XXXIX, the Patriots became only the second franchise in NFL history to win three Super Bowls in four years;

Whereas beginning during the 2003 season and stretching into the 2004 season, the Patriots won 21 consecutive games, 18 during the regular season and 3 during the post-season, setting franchise and league records for consecutive victories;

Whereas owner Robert Kraft, through sound management and by instilling a team-first philosophy, has made the Patriots the model NFL franchise;

Whereas Head Coach Bill Belichick, Offensive Coordinator Charlie Weis, and Defensive Coordinator Romeo Crennel, stressing teamwork and determination, led the Patriots to their ninth straight playoff victory by winning Super Bowl XXXIX and to their second consecutive 14 win regular season, advancing to the Super Bowl by defeating the record-setting Indianapolis Colts and the number one seeded Pittsburgh Steelers in the American Football Conference (AFC) playoffs;

Whereas the Patriots' ability to win despite serious injuries is a testament to the coaching staff and the desire of the team to

defend their title and win another Super Bowl;

Whereas wide-receiver Deion Branch, who had a record-tying 11 catches for 133 yards, was selected as the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the Super Bowl for the first time, joining two-time Super Bowl MVP quarterback Tom Brady as the only Patriots in NFL history chosen to receive this prestigious award; and

Whereas all of New England is proud of the accomplishments of the entire Patriots organization and the dedication of the faithful New England fans throughout the 2004-05 NFL season: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulates the National Football League Champion New England Patriots on their extraordinary victory in Super Bowl XXXIX.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 86, the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly honored to be a new Member of the House. I look forward with great anticipation to this body's numerous deliberations on consequential issues in the months and years ahead. Engaging in debate for this resolution, however, is unfortunately not one that I have looked forward to.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 86 congratulates the New England Patriots on winning Super Bowl XXXIX over the Philadelphia Eagles 24 to 21 on February 6, Super Bowl Sunday. As a big Eagles' fan myself, I know the rules of the House preclude me from wearing this hat, but I thought I would just show it to our audience. I am a dear and devoted Eagles' fan, but I had a very tough day, as did millions of other Eagles' fans across the country.

With this Super Bowl title, their third in the last four seasons, the Patriots have indeed earned their place atop the football world, and they deserve this honor from the House.

On behalf of all Members, I salute the Patriots for solidifying their place as one of the most successful dynasties in NFL history.

In this era of great parity in the NFL, the Patriots' recent success may not soon be replicated. Their three Super Bowls put New England in a class with other great franchises in pro-football history, like the Pittsburgh Steelers in the 1970s, the San

Francisco 49ers in the 1980s, and the Dallas Cowboys in the 1990s.

This was the Patriots' ninth straight win in the playoffs over the past 4 years, which equals the great run of Vince Lombardi's Green Bay Packers during the 1960s as the best pro-season stretch of all time. Led by their infallible coach Bill Belichick, quarterback Tom Brady, safety Rodney Harrison and Super Bowl MVP Deion Branch, the Patriots continued to do whatever it takes to win big games, and the Brady branch connection proved too much for the Eagles. They have won each of their three Super Bowls by just three points, but Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to recognize our Philadelphia Eagles for their outstanding season as well.

The Eagles went 13-3 during the regular season and reached the Super Bowl for the first time since 1981 and the second time in team history. Quarterback Donovan McNabb has been their catalyst all season. He threw for a whopping 357 yards and three touchdowns on Super Bowl Sunday, and wide receiver Terrell Owens, who broke his leg and tore a knee ligament just 7 weeks before the Super Bowl, returned for the first time and remarkably caught nine passes for 122 yards.

Over 130 million Americans are estimated to have watched at least part of the Super Bowl, nearly half of all residents. Super Bowl Sunday has become an unofficial holiday in this country, and for the third time in 4 years, the New England Patriots, and the Brady branch connection in particular, proved to all of us that they are indeed the champions of football.

Mr. Speaker, while I am indeed heartbroken and crestfallen in the wake of the Eagles' loss, I want to sincerely congratulate my colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) both for the success of his Patriots and for moving forward this resolution on the team's behalf.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he might consume to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), a son of New England and a very proud Patriots fan.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for the time.

I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) for asking for this time for a resolution to honor our great New England Patriots who now go down into history as one of the greatest football teams of all time, and in honor of that, I have a very brief poem that I thought I would read to honor this great family and great team.

To the New England Patriots:

The New England Patriots we proudly honor today, they've won three Super Bowls in 4 years with their remarkable play.